Computerisation of courts

t 2863. MS. SUSHILATIRIYA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government proposes to computerize the lower courts in future;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) by when the above scheme is likely to be implemented;

(d) the names of the States where the said courts are likely to be computerized in the first phase and the amount likely to be incurred thereon; and

(e) the number of lower courts in Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa and Uttar Pradesh which have been decided to be computerized in the first phase?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A scheme for computerisation of all the 13000 District and Subordinate Courts, prepared in accordance with the National Policy and Action Plan has been approved by the Government on 8th February, 2007 with National Informatics Centre (NIC) as the implementing agency. The coverage of the project includes Information and Communication Technology (ICT) enablement of all the District and Subordinate Courts and upgrading the ICT infrastructure of the Supreme Court and all the High Courts.

(c) The project is to be implemented in three phases over a period of five years. The first phase, which is under implementation, is scheduled to be completed in two years.

(d) The first phase of the project is being implemented in all the States and Union Territories at an estimated cost of Rs. 442 crore.

(e) All the lower courts in the country including the courts in the States of Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa and Uttar Pradesh have been taken up for computerization in the first phase.

Appointment of judges in High Courts

T2864. SHRI LALIT KISHORE CHATURVEDI: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 351 judges have been appointed on permanent or temporary basis in various High Courts, violating the collegium of the Supreme Court;

(b) whether the Supreme Court in its decision, had held that no Judge would be appointed on regular basis, without the advice of Supreme Court Collegium;

(c) the reasons for violating the collegium procedure; and

(d) the system being adopted to ensure strict compliance of directions, in future?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): (a) to (d) There has been no violation in appointment of Additional Judges as Permanent Judges. Appointment of Additional Judges and Permanent Judges of High Courts are made as per the Judgment

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.